SIXTH DAY—*6th June 1928.*

Before the proceedings of the day commenced, THE DEWAN informed the House that Messrs. V. Venkatappa, Khan Bahadur Mahomed Abbas Khan, M. C. Linge Gowda, S. C. Malliah and B. Linge Gowda had given notice of an adjournment motion to discuss the large percentage of failures in the recent Lower Secondary Examination and the Dewan asked whether the House would give its consent to discussing the matter. As more than 50 members agreed, the Dewan stated that the motion would be taken up at 4-30 P.M. the same day.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

BY MESSRS. D. S. MALLAPPA and M. BASAVIAH (Tiptur Rural), G. K. MALLAPPA (Tiptur Urban), KALE GOWDA (Turuvekere Rural), B. HANUMANTHE GOWDA (Tumkur Rural) and SURAPPA (Sira Rural).—

Q.—15. Will the Government be pleased to state:—
The total amount given to various newspapers during the past two years on account of—

(1) permanent advertisements,
(2) buying the required number of copies,
(3) literary encouragement?

GENERAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.—

A.—15. (1) Nil.
(2) 1925-26 .. Rs. 5,628-6-1
1926-27 .. ,, 6,347-2-1.
(3) Nil.

Supplementary Questions and Answers.

Mr. D. S. Mallappa.—

I had also asked for information as to the amount given to each newspaper. May I know why that part of the question has not been included?

General Secretary to Government.—

The papers may like to have that information treated as confidential.

Mr. D. S. Mallappa.—

Is respecting the opinion of the papers more important than furnishing information to a legitimate question put by the members of this House?

General Secretary to Government.—

That information is confidential.

Mr. D. S. Mallappa.—

Why is it considered confidential? And is the number of copies of each paper purchased by the Government also to be treated as such?

General Secretary to Government.—

The total amount given has been mentioned in the answer. The other question requires notice.

Mr. D. S. Mallappa.—

What was the question as sent up to the District meeting?

General Secretary to Government.—

I am not aware of it.

Mr. D. S. Mallappa.—

What is the amount given to each paper?

General Secretary to Government.—

I have already told you—the matter is confidential.

Mr. N. G. Sanjeeviah.—

Is it not necessary that questions should be answered as sent up to the District meetings?

Mr. B. L. Byanna.—

Is it not in the public interests that we should be informed that such and such encouragement is shown to particular newspapers?

General Secretary to Government.—

That question does not arise.

Mr. G. B. Raghavendrachar.—

Is the question of giving advertisements to a particular paper based on definite considerations such as the circulation it has, etc.?

General Secretary to Government.—

Yes. The main point for consideration in such cases is the advantage derived by advertising in a particular paper.

Mr. S. N. M. Razvi.—

With reference to the reply of the General Secretary that information relating to the amount given to particular papers is confidential, may I know how it could be so construed so long as the amounts given to them are included in grants voted upon by this House?

Third Member of Council.—

It is quite possible; you vote the total grant, not the details; an item has been included under "contingencies" for payment to informers, but details relating to that part of the expenditure are not published. Similarly in regard to the number of copies of a particular newspaper purchased, we subscribe for as many copies as Government may require; that item is also included under contingencies.

Mr. G. Chennappa.—

Where is the harm in giving this information? Why should questions be disallowed either in part or entirely?

Third Member of Council.—

I do not think you can raise a discussion on that point. It depends upon the particular circumstances of each case.

Mr. D. S. Mallappa.—

Why should the number of copies purchased be kept confidential?

General Secretary to Government.—

That will be given.

Mr. D. S. Mallappa.—

May I know, similarly, the amount given to each paper?

Dewan.—

A certain amount of discretion should vest in the Government. If details are furnished, it may lead to unnecessary debate as regards the encouragements to particular papers.

Mr. B. S. Puttaswami.—

Does the figure given include any financial aid to the "Mysore Star"?

Dewan.—

That is exactly the point we can't go into. If there is an impression that local papers are not receiving adequate support, I may at once assure this House that it is not true and that they are receiving every help that could be expected.

Mr. G. B. Raghavendrachar.—

The common impression is that outside papers get more encouragement.

Dewan.—

No.

Mr. H. C. Dasappa.—

Is there any committee to decide the papers to which advertisements may be given, or is it decided by the Government themselves?

General Secretary to Government.—

Government decides it.

Mr. H. C. Dasappa.—

Is not circulation also an indicating of the importance of a paper?

Third Member of Council.—

Yes.

Mr. H. C. Dasappa.—

If so, have you ascertained the circulation of each paper, published within the State?

General Secretary to Government.—

It has been ascertained in respect of papers about which there was any doubt.

Mr. H. C. Dasappa.—

Is the "Mysore Star" one such?

General Secretary to Government.—

I want notice.

BY. MESSRS. PATTABHIRAMA SETTY (Chiknaikanhalli Urban), B. HANUMANTHE GOWDA (Tumkur Rural), VENKATASUBBIAH (Gubbi Rural), S. LINGAPPA and G. KANCHAPPA (Chiknaikanhalli Rural).—

Q.—18. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the number of major and minor tanks (district-war) in the State which are actually serving as sources of irrigation to wet lands;

(2) how many of these were completely filled during 1927-28;

(3) the number of tanks below which the yield of crop was less than four annas;

(4) the number of tanks below which the yield of crop was more than four annas;

(5) how many tanks were personally inspected by the Revenue Jamabandi officers;

(6) in what districts and under what tanks remission of wet assessment was granted;

(7) whether the raiyats of wet lands below the Kandikere tank of Chiknaikanhalli Taluk applied for remission and how many such applications were received in the Chiknaikanhalli Taluk Office;

(8) what kinds of crops were sown in the wet lands below Kandikere tank and how long is it since this tank was filled;

(9) what is the number of applications for remission that were received in the whole province and in how many cases remission was granted?